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Will USSR keep its word?

# SALT foe criticizes treaty

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A leading Senate foe of the strategic arms control treaty (SALT) with Russia was in Michigan yesterday, charging that the White House is "suppressing" information that would turn the public against SALT II.

"The United States government is not leveling with the American people about the tremendous buildup of arms in the Soviet Union in the last 10 years," said U.S. Sen. Jake Garn.

**'The Russians' nuclear war-winning capability is assured by the mid-1980's.'**

The arms limitation pact — expected to be signed by United States and Soviet leaders within weeks — would amount to an American stamp of approval on Soviet weapon superiority, the Utah Republican said, leaving the United States vulnerable and dangerously disadvantaged.

Speaking at Hillsdale College, Garn said the provisions of the treaty "so heavily favor the Soviet Union that its nuclear war-winning capability is guaranteed by the mid-1980's."

Garn, who sits on the Select Committee on Intelligence and the Defense Appropriations subcommittee, was the first speaker in a four-day seminar, "Does the U.S. Have a Foreign Policy?," sponsored by Hillsdale's Center for Constructive Alternatives.

OTHER SPEAKERS will include a U.S. congressman, a consultant to the Soviet SALT I team who later defected to the United States and political scientists from Harvard and Georgetown universities.

Garn, an outspoken opponent of SALT II, said that one of the major disparities in the treaty is that American B-52 bombers are limited while Soviet Backfire bombers are not. The Soviet Union already has approximately 100 Backfire bombers in operation and is building about three new ones each month, he said.

Garn, a five-year senator who formerly sat on the Armed Services Committee and the Arms Control subcommittee, said also there would be problems enforcing the Salt II treaty. Verification, always difficult, has become even more so since the loss of U.S. test monitoring sites in Iran, he said.

"Even if I could write the treaty myself and felt that it was fair, the Soviet Union has an incredible record of cheating since World War II," Garn said. "I don't think we can trust the Russians to keep their word."

Also denouncing the SALT II treaty at Hillsdale yesterday was Ray Cline, a political scientist at Georgetown University. He agreed with Garn that the treaty "freezes in" certain advantages in military equipment that the Soviet Union has been building up over the years.

"The treaty clearly does nothing important to affect the trend in comparative balance of power," he said. "It simply ratifies the present trend toward Soviet superiority."

CLINE, EXECUTIVE director of Georgetown's Center for Strategic and International Studies, said that although the treaty would allow the United States to build its nuclear arms strength, public opinion might work against that.

Garn said, "There is a danger that the treaty will be seen by the American public and Congress as a leveling off in the arms race. We would therefore not build additional military strength to balance the Soviet's weapon growth."

Scheduled to speak Thursday is Igor Glagolev, a consultant to the Soviet SALT I team now living in Washington. In a telephone interview, he said the new treaty would give the Soviet Union a 5:1 superiority in strategic nuclear weapons.

**'The Soviet Union has a record of cheating since World War II.'**

Charging that the American public is dangerously misinformed about the strategic balance of power, Glagolev said, "The United States government publishes the same figures, repeats the Soviet propaganda (about equality of forces), year after year."

Glagolev, now director of the Washington-based Association for Cooperation of Democratic Countries, said he defected from the Soviet Union because "I didn't want to participate in the preparation of nuclear war against the United States."